



## Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 12 February 2009

Current Nationwide  
Threat Level is



[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)  
<http://www.dhs.gov/>

- KTBS 3 Shreveport reports that a one-mile radius around a Panola County, Texas natural gas plant was evacuated Wednesday morning after an explosion there. One person suffered minor injuries. (See item [2](#))
- According to CNN, police arrested a man near the U.S. Capitol on Tuesday after he drove up to one of the building's barricades with a rifle in his vehicle and told officers that he had a delivery for the U.S. President, a Senate spokesman said. (See item [26](#))

### **DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Fast Jump**

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## **Energy Sector**

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: **Physical**: ELEVATED, **Cyber**: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *February 11, Houston Chronicle* – (Oklahoma; Texas) **Thunderstorms hit Houston with wind.** A line of thunderstorms that moved through the Houston area over Tuesday night knocked out power in some neighborhoods. About 95,000 CenterPoint Energy customers lost power during the storms, but a spokeswoman said electricity had been restored to all but about 4,000 customers, mostly in the Greenspoint and Humble areas, by daybreak. The storms carried less of a punch than those that hit farther north on Tuesday and early Wednesday, including tornados that were blamed for at least eight deaths in Oklahoma and wind gusts that reached 88 mph in north Texas. Oklahoma Gas and Electric had 28,500 customers lose power, mostly in the Oklahoma City area, according to its Web site. Eighteen power poles were snapped.

Source: <http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/front/6257782.html>

See also: <http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5jW-BndswWuhgPAPXOK4Q6TCQsANQD96944CO0>

2. *February 11, KTBS 3 Shreveport* – (Texas) **Explosion at gas pipeline plant forces evacuations.** A one-mile radius around a Panola County, Texas, natural gas plant was evacuated Wednesday morning after an explosion there. Panola County sheriff's deputies said one person suffered minor injuries but was not hospitalized. Fire crews were working late Wednesday morning to stabilize the situation and extinguish the fire, authorities said. A section of U.S. Highway 79 around the plant was closed. The explosion and fire happened at the DCP plant on U.S. 79 north of Carthage. The plant was part of a natural gas pipeline operation. The explosion happened just before 10:30 a.m.  
Source: <http://www.ktbs.com/news/Explosion-at-gas-pipeline-plant-forces-evacuations-25543/>
3. *February 10, KRIS 6 Corpus Christi* – (Texas) **Drilling rig hits pocket of gas, firefighters investigating situation.** A drilling rig in the Tuloso-Midway area hit a pocket of gas Monday, causing a blow-out that sent a mixture of oil and water spewing into the air. A call to police was received around 1:30 p.m. concerning a possible explosion in the area of Clarkwood and Sedwick. The company drilled to about 3,500 feet into the ground before hitting the pocket. Officials said even though it is normal for that to happen when dealing with that kind of drilling, they still have to take safety precaution for the workers as well as people nearby. No one was injured in the incident. Emergency crews monitored the air but determined there was nothing leaking into the atmosphere that would harm the public. The company's construction crews are expected to haul away some of the mess. Officials said it may be a full day before the flow is capped off. The Railroad Commission and the Corpus Christi Fire Department will continue to monitor the situation.  
Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/29107944/>
4. *February 10, Anchorage Daily News* – (Alaska) **State says Exxon violated permit.** Exxon Mobil Corp. violated an Alaska State water-use permit while constructing an ice road across the North Slope, state officials said on February 10. The company is building the 50-mile ice road to support development of its remote Point Thomson oil and gas field. An Exxon contractor, Alaska Frontier Constructors Inc., last week pumped water from the broad Sagavanirktok River delta as part of work to build the road east to Point Thomson. But a work crew failed to first test the water to make sure it was brackish and not fresh water, said an employee of the state Department of Natural Resources. Taking fresh water from the river is not allowed because it is important for winter survival of whitefish and other species, said a habitat biologist with the state Department of Fish and Game. About 28,350 gallons of river water were used before Exxon and the contractor realized water from the site was not suitable, he said. The 28,350 gallons is "a small amount of water relative to what's out there," and no contamination or other environmental harm was done. Exxon might get a violation notice and a fine is possible but not likely, he said. State officials will work with Exxon

and its contractors on the water-use rules.

Source: <http://www.adn.com/money/industries/oil/story/686306.html>

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## **Chemical Industry Sector**

5. *February 10, LSB Industries, Inc.* – (Alabama) **LSB announces one of two nitric acid plants at chemical business subsidiary suffers damage due to fire.** LSB Industries, Inc. announced on February 10 that a small nitric acid plant located at its chemical business subsidiary in Cherokee, Alabama suffered damage due to a fire on February 5. The fire was immediately extinguished and there were no injuries. The cause of the fire is under investigation and the extent of the damage to the nitric acid plant is not yet determined. It is also not yet known when repair or replacement will be completed and the nitric acid plant put back in operation. The original manufacturer recently rebuilt the compressor for the nitric acid plant and it appears that the compressor may have been involved with the cause of the fire. The nitric acid plant that suffered the fire, with a current 182 ton per day capacity, is the smaller of the two nitric acid plants at the Company's Cherokee, Alabama site. While the volume of production of finished product at the Cherokee, Alabama site will be impacted, the site will continue production with the larger of the nitric acid plants. LSB Industries believes that the shortfall in nitric acid requirements to meet sales commitments can be supplemented with nitric acid shipped from its other operations.

Source: [http://www.marketwatch.com/news/story/lsb-announces-one-two-nitric/story.aspx?guid={D672F35A-A856-42F1-BA97-759DD5072C0D}&dist=msr\\_6](http://www.marketwatch.com/news/story/lsb-announces-one-two-nitric/story.aspx?guid={D672F35A-A856-42F1-BA97-759DD5072C0D}&dist=msr_6)

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## **Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector**

6. *February 11, Tennessean* – (Tennessee) **TVA nuke fuel supplier criticized on fire safety.** Fire safety violations at a Nuclear Fuel Services warehouse that stores nuclear materials in East Tennessee will be looked into Friday in a meeting between company officials and U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff. The Erwin, Tennessee plant converts surplus bomb-grade uranium into commercial reactor fuel for the Tennessee Valley Authority and also makes nuclear fuel for the U.S. Navy. The NRC identified "insufficient" fire safety controls and "unacceptable amounts" of combustible material in the warehouse on repeated occasions over several months. The NRC will review the information that is presented in the meeting and make a decision later about any enforcement action, its announcement Tuesday said.

Source:

<http://www.tennessean.com/article/20090211/NEWS01/902110424/1026/NEWS09>

7. *February 10, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission* – (Arkansas) **Unusual event declared due to a fire onsite — update.** The subject event notification at Arkansas Nuclear One Unit 1 erroneously reported that all control rods fully inserted following the manual reactor trip initiated in response to a fire on site. In actuality, the rod bottom

light for Rod 6 in Rod Group 7 did not illuminate following the reactor trip, and it was verified by the plant computer to have inserted to 2.3 percent withdrawn. The control board operator identified this condition quickly and reported it to the control room supervisor in his immediate action response. This condition did not necessitate any additional operator actions, and shutdown margin requirements were maintained.

Source: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/en.html#en44837>

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

8. *February 11, MotorAge* – (National) **Aircraft tire management system gets nod to supply auto parts for military ground vehicles.** A supply chain management system that has handled the aircraft tire needs of the U.S. Navy and Air Force fleets for more than a decade has been awarded an additional 10-year contract worth up to \$5.6 billion to provide all types of components for the military's ground vehicles. Lockheed Martin will be using the Parts Planning Solution from Click Commerce, Inc. Click Commerce's software will play a key role in helping Lockheed manage inventory and maintain supply chain logistics with more than 350 suppliers producing some 1,200 parts, with the potential to grow to 10,000 parts. "The solution will assist in the guaranteed on-time delivery of maintenance and replacement automotive parts to multiple U.S. military forces while meeting surge requirements," according to the general manager of the company's Service Network Solutions division. It will ensure "total asset visibility" and optimize inventory while improving efficiency, service levels and response time, he says. In September, after a competitive bidding process, the Defense Logistics Agency awarded Lockheed initial funding for a four-year base period to work on the Fleet Automotive Support Initiative-Global program, part of the U.S. Defense Department's drive to improve logistics and "vehicle sustainment" support. Lockheed subsequently made the arrangement with Click Commerce.

Source: <http://motorage.search-autoparts.com/motorage/Distribution/Aircraft-tire-management-system-gets-nod-to-supply/ArticleStandard/Article/detail/580646?contextCategoryId=43145>

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

9. *February 10, KDKA 2 Pittsburgh* – (Pennsylvania) **Scam targets credit union members in New Castle.** Customers at the First Choice Credit Union in New Castle were targets of a cyber scam. Someone set up a fake Web site that looked just like the one for the credit union. They text messaged unsuspecting customers saying there was a problem with their accounts and directed them to the fake Web site. That is where the scammers asked for account information. "I cannot stress it enough. Do not reply to these. They are just scams. There is nothing true about them," the CEO of First Choice Credit Union said. Hundreds of customers fell for the scam and gave out confidential information.

Source: <http://kdk.com/local/Credit.union.internet.2.932140.html>

10. *February 10, Portal IT* – (International) **Phishing alert: PayPal hit with XSS exploit.** The online payments site PayPal has been crippled thanks to another cross-site scripting (XSS) bug that would enable hackers to get away with user passwords. Even worse, it appears that the bug would also allow the theft of authentication cookies, The Register reports. Soon-to-be victims arrive on a malicious page designed to open a javascript window. The message in the window reads the following: “Fugitif was here another time.” PayPal is aware of the problem but the company has yet to announce a solution. This is not the first time that PayPal fell victim to an XSS bug that allowed the injection of unauthorized code. The online payments site had to patch a similar vulnerability in May 2008, after being informed by a Finnish researcher.  
Source: [http://news.portalit.net/fullnews\\_phishing-alert-paypal-hit-with-xss-exploit\\_2055.html](http://news.portalit.net/fullnews_phishing-alert-paypal-hit-with-xss-exploit_2055.html)

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## **Transportation Sector**

11. *February 10, Maryville Daily Times* – (Tennessee) **Sinking boat spills gas; people forced to evacuate at marina in Friendsville.** Boat residents at a Friendsville marina were evacuated Monday after a sinking boat began leaking gasoline. The boat worried firemen that a spark could ignite the gasoline on top of the water and cause an explosion at International Harbor Marina. All the boats had gasoline in them, according to people with boats in the 98 slips at the marina, which has operated since 1992. The Friendsville Volunteer Fire Department was the first responder at the scene, and the Blount County Fire Department got involved as the hazardous materials agency for the entire county. Boat residents and other citizens were evacuated from the general vicinity as the 38-foot steel-bottomed boat began to go under. Blount County firefighters contained the gasoline spill using booms, the Blount County fire chief said. The booms, floating barriers, were placed around the spill until the gas could be removed. People in the marina area were told not to smoke cigarettes or start their boat engines due to the possibility of sparks triggering an explosion. The electricity was also turned off.  
Source: <http://www.thedailytimes.com/article/20090210/NEWS/302109981>
12. *February 10, WRC 4 Washington, D.C.* – (Kentucky) **Dulles-to-St. Louis flight diverted due to smoky cockpit.** A flight from Dulles International Airport to St. Louis was diverted Tuesday afternoon after a report of smoke in the cockpit. United Flight 8023 landed safely in Louisville just after 2 p.m. as a precaution. Another plane was brought in to take the 37 passengers to St. Louis.  
Source: <http://www.nbcwashington.com/news/local/Dulles-to-St-Louis-Flight-Diverted-Due-to-Smoky-Cockpit.html>
13. *February 10, Associated Press* – (Tennessee) **Memphis airport runway to be rebuilt.** Officials at Memphis International Airport have awarded a \$47.9 million contract to rebuild its sole east-west runway. Ajax Paving Industries of Troy, Michigan, won the contract with its low bid. The runway closest to the big FedEx hub will be closed for

about nine months for its first complete overhaul since it opened as an Army Air Corps field in the 1940s. It should be open for FedEx's peak season in December. According to the Commercial Appeal, the airport's cargo and passenger aircraft will be limited to three north-south runways while the work is being done.

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2009-02-10-memphis-runway-rebuilt\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2009-02-10-memphis-runway-rebuilt_N.htm)

14. *February 10, Roanoke Rapids Daily Herald* – (North Carolina) **Freight train runs amok; snarled wreckage keeps highway closed.** Huge ruts gouged into the earth stretched more than 820 feet down the railroad tracks through the wreckage of some 18 freight cars that derailed the afternoon of February 9. On the morning of February 10 the North Carolina Highway 186 remained closed as the cars lay in heaps of twisted metal with debris scattered across the road. A tanker car spilled its contents at the scene. It was plugged up last night, and its cargo was not hazardous so no evacuations were necessary. The 93-car train was headed to Boykins, Virginia when it derailed. According to CSX Community Affairs and Relations officials, there is no word yet as to what caused the derailment, but the tracks where the accident happened are being replaced. They said that there were no hazardous materials on the train that originated in Rocky Mount.

Source:

<http://www.rrdailyherald.com/articles/2009/02/10/news/doc4991dedb2239c175760356.txt>

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

15. *February 11, Kingston Daily Freeman* – (New York) **Powder in envelope forces evacuation of Wawarsing Town Hall; 7 sent to hospital.** The Wawarsing Town Hall was evacuated and seven people who work in the building were sent to the hospital as a precaution on February 10 after a court clerk opened an envelope that contained a powdery substance, according to police, emergency responders, and a town employee. The town clerk said police were notified and all people in the building, except the court employees, were evacuated. State police at the Wawarsing barracks said the building was analyzed by the haz-mat team for the "presence of any noxious material, including chemical and biological agents, with negative results." One employee of the town court complained of an eye irritation, so seven people who work in the court area were decontaminated in portable showers carried by the haz-mat team and then were sent to Ellenville Community Hospital to be checked out, according to the police. All were later released. Police allowed people to re-enter the town hall about 5 p.m. It was not immediately clear where the suspicious piece of mail originated.

Source:

<http://www.dailyfreeman.com/articles/2009/02/11/news/doc4992546f64e26924881972.txt>

16. *February 11, Loveland Reporter-Herald* – (Colorado) **White powder arrives in mail at Fort Collins building.** An envelope containing white powder forced the temporary



quarantine Tuesday morning of a building in central Fort Collins, Colorado. The letter was mailed to 2150 Centre Ave., Building B. A security guard who opened the letter found the substance. After an investigation by Poudre Fire Authority's hazardous materials team, the substance was not found to be contaminated with a dangerous material. Several federal agencies have offices in the building.

Source: [http://www.reporterherald.com/news\\_story.asp?id=21494](http://www.reporterherald.com/news_story.asp?id=21494)

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## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

17. *February 11, USAgNet* – (International) **China culls over 13,000 birds after avian flu outbreak.** China said it culled more than 13,000 poultry after discovering the H5N1 strain of avian flu on a farm in Xinjiang province, five days after saying none of the human cases this year were linked to outbreaks among birds, reports Bloomberg. The outbreak in the northwestern province, which began at the start of this month, is the country's first since December, China's chief veterinary officer said in a report on February 10 to the World Organization for Animal Health in Paris. It said 1,330 farmed birds were infected with avian flu and 519 died. Authorities have vaccinated 350,000 birds in Xinjiang in an effort to stop the virus spreading, China's chief veterinary officer said in the report. China's ministry of agriculture said the outbreak had been controlled, the state-run news agency Xinhua reported. The ministry of agriculture said there had been no avian flu outbreaks among poultry in the provinces where human infections were reported, the official China Daily reported.

Source: <http://www.usagnet.com/story-national.php?Id=328&yr=2009>

18. *February 11, Wilson County News* – (Texas) **Animal-agriculture disaster plan developed.** Wilson County is the first in the state to implement an Animal-Agriculture Disaster Response Plan on a county level, according to a county emergency-management agency coordinator. The Animal Issue Committee Plan, a detailed, comprehensive 200-plus-page document, contains proposed steps to take in the event of a natural, accidental, or man-made disaster dealing with agriculture. Even though the response plan is for agriculture, the emergency management coordinator said animal disease and the sheltering of animals were prioritized over crop disasters. The plan was made possible by funding from a 2006 Department of Homeland Security Grant the county received. Because the county does not border the Gulf of Mexico, the plan emphasizes natural disasters such as a tornado touching ground, the maiming or killing of livestock in a dairy or feedlot, or an outbreak of a deadly disease. The plan would assist in the proper disposal of the carcasses, to protect the health of the general public. Animal carcasses must be handled accordingly with the cause of death. In the event of having to dispose of a large number of cattle, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality regulations must be met. The draft plan was tested during a daylong "table-top exercise" in November 2007, with participants discussing the actions to be taken after a disaster, such as the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease. AECOM Environment Research personnel conducted the exercise, which did not include actual livestock. Participants in the exercise included officials from Homeland Security, the state's animal health commission, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, the Texas

AgriLife Extension Service, the Texas Department of State Health Services, the Alamo Area Council of Governments, the American Red Cross, Connally Memorial Medical Center, and county and local law-enforcement agencies.

Source: <http://www.wilsoncountynews.com/article.php?id=22336>

19. *February 10, NewsInferno* – (Indiana) **Manufacturer trying to block investigation of popcorn lung chemical.** Popcorn Lung, or Bronchiolitis obliterans, is making headlines again because a federal investigation into the disease at the Sensient Flavors International plant in Indianapolis is being blocked by the manufacturer. Now, Seattle PI reports that flavor manufacturer Sensient Flavors International and top governmental occupational safety investigators are battling the issue in court with Sensient Flavors working to ensure that federal safety and health officials are unable to protect workers exposed to the deadly chemical. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) was called to investigate a Popcorn Lung outbreak at a Missouri microwave popcorn plant in 2000. Since then it has found the disease present in that plant and others like it across the Midwest, said Seattle Post-Intelligencer. Sensient apparently altered production processes during NIOSH's diacetyl inspection of its Indianapolis plant. The Food and Drug Administration, which approved diacetyl use years ago without any agency testing, has not indicated if it will or will not order any testing of the toxic food flavoring now. OMB Watch, a nonprofit advocacy group explained that factory workers and likely consumers exposed to Diacetyl are at an increased risk for developing Popcorn Lung. The OMB also pointed to a number of damaging assertions regarding the link and states that OSHA has long known about the issue but avoided addressing the serious health problem until the media took hold.
- Source: <http://www.newsinferno.com/archives/4712>

20. *February 10, Associated Press* – (Arkansas) **3 Arkansas farms violated EPA standards.** Three Arkansas Egg Co. farms violated the federal Clean Water Act by spreading excessive amounts of chicken litter on land and improperly operating their waste management systems, the Environmental Protection Agency says. The facilities, Blair Farm in Benton County, and Summers Farm and Appleton Farm, both in Washington County, were inspected in February 2008, and were found to be disposing of animal waste and animal carcasses improperly, the EPA said. In addition, the Appleton Farm failed to maintain a 35-foot distance between streams and waste application sites, the agency said. The EPA ordered Arkansas Egg Co. to immediately remove all animal carcasses, begin using proper carcass-incineration methods, and bring their facilities up to EPA standards.
- Source: [http://www.wxvt.com/Global/story.asp?S=9822954&nav=menu1344\\_2](http://www.wxvt.com/Global/story.asp?S=9822954&nav=menu1344_2)

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## **Water Sector**

21. *February 11, Honolulu Advertiser* – (Hawaii) **Stuck Navy ship failed to report sewage release near Hawaii shore.** The Navy is pointing to a breakdown in communication in failing to report to state officials a 5,000-gallon release of raw sewage Saturday night by the grounded cruiser Port Royal, which was refloated early Monday. The state



Department of Health revealed the information Tuesday. The Clean Water Branch of the state Department of Health said it was notified on Monday by the state Office of Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response of the raw sewage discharge between late evening Saturday and 10 a.m. Sunday. The 567-foot Pearl Harbor cruiser ran aground about 8:30 p.m. Thursday a half-mile from shore. The Health Department said it confirmed the sewage release Tuesday morning. There remained questions about the Health Department's jurisdiction regarding a Navy vessel, but a Health Department spokeswoman said the Navy should have notified the state. The release of 1,000 gallons or more sewage by a permit holder is considered a significant amount, and the public is required to be notified, she said. The Health Department also said it was notified Monday of the bypass of 12,700 gallons of treated but not ultravioletly disinfected effluent from the Navy's Fort Kamehameha wastewater treatment plant. The release occurred near the Pearl Harbor channel. In response, the Health Department is advising the public to stay out of waters fronting the reef runway from Ke'ehi Channel to the Pearl Harbor channel. A meeting of state and federal agencies, including the state Department of Land and Natural Resources, the Navy, Fish and Wildlife Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, was held Tuesday to plan for an investigation of the impact of the grounding on the marine environment.

Source:

[http://www.honoluluadvertiser.com/article/20090211/NEWS08/902110398/1001/LOCA\\_LNEWSFRONT](http://www.honoluluadvertiser.com/article/20090211/NEWS08/902110398/1001/LOCA_LNEWSFRONT)

See also:

<http://www.honoluluadvertiser.com/article/20090210/BREAKING01/90210029/-1>

22. *February 10, Water Technology Online* – (Minnesota) **Study: Road salt potential drinking water threat.** A study by researchers at the University of Minnesota has found that approximately 70 percent of road salt used during winter months in the Minneapolis/St. Paul metro area is retained in the region's watershed, presenting potentially serious consequences for drinking water and aquatic life, a February 10 university news release said. The researchers studied 39 lakes, three major rivers, 10 tributaries and numerous observation wells, and, according to the news release, "the results are alarming." A civil engineering professor at the university's St. Anthony Falls Laboratory team tracked the movement of chloride applied by humans throughout the water system, distinguishing it from geological or natural origins. They found that the chloride concentrations (salinity) in 39 metro area lakes have increased over the past 22 years, following a similar trend in road salt purchases by the State of Minnesota.

Source: [http://watertechonline.com/news.asp?N\\_ID=71389](http://watertechonline.com/news.asp?N_ID=71389)

23. *February 10, Associated Press* – (Arkansas) **More than 30 water systems still under boil orders.** Health officials say more than 30 water systems remain under precautionary boil orders as of February 10, as communities still grapple with the damage left by an ice storm that passed through North Arkansas. Many of the water systems lost electricity as the ice storm swept through, which shut down water pumps and dropped the water pressure. State officials issued the boil orders as the systems did not have backup generators to keep the pumps working. More than 20,000 people remain under boil orders in Baxter, Carroll, Craighead, Fulton, Greene, Izard, Lawrence,

Marion, Newton, Randolph, Searcy, Sharp, and Stone counties. The boil orders could stay in effect for several more days.

Source: [http://www.wxvt.com/Global/story.asp?S=9819751&nav=menu1344\\_2](http://www.wxvt.com/Global/story.asp?S=9819751&nav=menu1344_2)

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

24. *February 11, News Day* – (New York) **New York flu cases climb, feds see resistance to meds.** Flu cases have accelerated significantly on Long Island and throughout New York within the past week to 10 days, state health officials said yesterday as their federal counterparts grappled with the resistance of a key influenza strain to the leading antiviral medication. State health officials say the number of people with the flu in recent days has increased dramatically compared with previous weeks in the season. “This is the peak in the season, but we are actually seeing the peak a little later this time around, so there is a shift this year,” said a Nassau University Medical Center official. “Last year there were 2,500 deaths attributed to influenza in New York,” the Suffolk health chief said. This flu season is complicated by growing signs of drug resistance in one of the major “A” strains of flu, and a vaccine that is not fully protecting against a circulating strain of B influenza. Viruses are showing resistance to a leading flu drug known as oseltamivir and sold as Tamiflu.

Source: <http://www.newsday.com/news/printedition/longisland/ny-liflu116031440feb11,0,7731075.story>

25. *February 11, IRIN News* – (International) **Vietnam: Second case of human avian influenza as bird infections spread.** Vietnam’s second human avian influenza case this year has been confirmed by health authorities, who are scrambling to contain the disease that has now spread to poultry in seven central and southern provinces. A 23-year-old from northern Quang Ninh Province is seriously ill with pneumonia, having tested positive for human avian flu. She was hospitalized with fever and breathing difficulties in January after eating a sick chicken. The head of the Preventative Health and Environment Agency told IRIN the woman had shown “no improvement despite continuous positive treatment.” Vaccination efforts have become lax because Vietnam had, until recently, considered itself bird flu-free. Farmers have also delayed reporting outbreaks. In one case, a crowd tried to prevent authorities from culling birds that were being transported to the capital and lacked proper health certificates.

Source: <http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=82866>

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## **Government Facilities Sector**

26. *February 10, CNN* – (District of Columbia) **Man arrested with rifle said he had delivery for Obama.** Police arrested a man near the U.S. Capitol on Tuesday after he drove up to one of the building’s barricades with a rifle in his vehicle and told officers that he had a delivery for the U.S. President, a Senate spokesman said. The 64 year old man, of Winnfield, Louisiana, was charged with possession of an unregistered firearm

and unregistered ammunition. The man drove up to the north barricade at the Capitol late Tuesday afternoon, saying he had a delivery for the President, a police sergeant said. After further questioning, the man admitted he had a rifle in his truck. He was arrested and taken to police headquarters for processing, she said. A search of his truck turned up several rounds of ammunition, the sergeant said. Police also checked the area around the barricade, but found nothing hazardous.

Source:

<http://edition.cnn.com/2009/CRIME/02/10/obama.threat/index.html?iref=mpstoryview>

27. *February 10, Government Executive* – (District of Columbia) **Lawmakers upset over DHS employee's handling of dead fish, white powder.** A Homeland Security intelligence official was responsible for bringing a package containing a dead fish and white powder to Department offices in downtown Washington on February 6, an apparent violation of security protocols that set off a significant security incident, according to sources familiar with the matter. The incident also has caught the attention of key lawmakers, who want a full report on what happened. The package was sent to the home of the senior official on February 5. Sources said the official brought the package in her car on February 6 to her office and parked her vehicle under a ventilation shaft in the garage. On February 6, an FBI spokeswoman confirmed the presence of the package with the dead fish and white powder, which prompted a brief evacuation and calls to the FBI to secure the building. She also said the package was removed from the garage by a response team to a lab for testing, which is standard procedure. But because the FBI did not return calls, it is unclear whether the white powder has yet been identified. On Capitol Hill, lawmakers are expressing concern even as they continue to learn more about the incident.

Source: <http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0209/021009cdam1.htm>

28. *February 10, Grand Forks Herald* – (Minnesota) **No bomb found after threat at Grand Forks County office building.** Authorities in Grand Forks, Minnesota, found no bomb after a bomb threat was made to the county office building on February 10. The sheriff's deputy said there was a bomb threat on the second floor of the six-story building downtown. The building was evacuated while law enforcement investigated. No surrounding buildings were evacuated, and the county courthouse across the street remained open.

Source: <http://www.dl-online.com/articles/index.cfm?id=41480&section=region>

29. *February 10, Oregon Live* – (Oregon) **Suspicious object brings bomb squad to courthouse again.** Hillsboro police closed First Avenue between Main and Lincoln streets for 90 minutes on the morning of February 9 after a suspicious object was found inside the Washington County Courthouse during a routine security sweep. A security officer spotted a small, purple cloth bag sitting under a bench inside the east side courthouse building at about 10:30 a.m., said a Hillsboro Police Department official. Inside the bag, the guard found a fist-sized metal pipe with end caps on both sides and a 6-inch yellow wire protruding from one end, the police official said. Hillsboro police were contacted, and the Portland Police Bureau Bomb Squad arrived at around 10:45 a.m. The item was quickly scooped up by a bomb-handling technician and placed in a

small bomb-proof trailer. According to the police spokesman, the bomb squad took the item to an undisclosed location for further examination and likely detonation.

Source:

<http://www.oregonlive.com/news/argus/index.ssf?/base/news/123429541630910.xml&coll=6>

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

30. *February 11, Richmond Palladium-Item* – (Indiana) **911 offices look ahead to necessary upgrades.** Expensive new technology requirements for 911 offices have united six eastern Indiana counties in a search for solutions. Wayne, Union, Fayette, Randolph, Rush and Franklin counties use the same Windows-based operating system through Verizon to answer 911 calls, a system that next year will be obsolete and no longer supported by Microsoft, Wayne County’s 911 director said. The counties are cooperating in a study of their 911 programs and may collaborate in seeking federal grant funds to help pay for the new 911 technology. Indiana was awarded about \$783,000 in a federal grant by the national 911 office that must be spent by Sept. 30, 2009, said the Wayne County 911 director. The grant requires a one-to-one match. Source: <http://www.pal-item.com/article/20090211/NEWS01/902110303/1008>
31. *February 11, Louisville Courier-Journal* – (Kentucky) **U.S. to pay 75 percent of Guard’s storm work.** The U.S. Homeland Security Secretary announced February 10 that the Federal Government is taking the unusual step of picking up 75 percent of the state’s costs of calling up the Kentucky National Guard in the aftermath of the recent ice storm. She said the Federal Government normally helps pay only costs of cleanup and repairs once a state is designated a federal disaster area. But because of the scope of the damage and the Guard’s extraordinary role — which included going door-to-door to check on residents in some of the worst-hit areas — she said she will authorize the cost of the Guard as well. “You don’t have many disasters of this breadth,” she said of the storm that was blamed for 33 deaths and left 769,000 Kentuckians without power. Source: <http://www.courier-journal.com/article/20090211/NEWS01/902110426/1008/NEWS01>
32. *February 11, Associated Press* – (Michigan) **Michigan law enforcement worries about crime labs.** Michigan law enforcement officials are warning lawmakers of a crisis brewing at state crime labs, where caseloads are up 25 percent since Detroit’s police lab was shut down more than four months ago. Detroit’s work is being handled by Michigan State Police forensic scientists after an audit found errors in 10 percent of 200 random gun cases at the Detroit lab. Many of the state’s 216 forensic employees are working up to 30 hours of overtime each two-week pay period to keep up with added workload, the state police captain said February 10. “It will have an impact across the entire public safety system in the state,” he said, noting the department is falling farther behind on efforts to lower a backlog of cases. Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/02/11/AR2009021100674.html>

## **Information Technology**

33. *February 11, SpamFighter News* – (Florida) **Public warned of fraudulent AOL phishing campaign.** The commissioner of Florida Agriculture and Consumer Services on January 27 issued an alert about a phishing campaign using the brand name of AOL (America Online), a popular Internet service provider, to capture the personal details of consumers, as reported by SunSentinel on January 27. Consumers have recently reported of receiving e-mail messages from an ISP that pretends to represent the “AOL Safety and Security Group.” The messages ask recipients for their billing details and warn that non-compliance would lead to the suspension of their accounts. The phishing e-mail generally contains exciting or upsetting statements to lure victims to respond instantly. It typically asks the consumer to provide information such as his AOL screen name, other user ID and password, social security and payment card numbers, etc. However, the consumer scam investigators confirmed with AOL and declared that the e-mail messages are fake, according to Florida State regulators. The investigators also said that AOL never asks customers personal data over e-mail. Many organizations strikingly and repeatedly tell their consumers that the organization or its representatives would never ever request end-users to reveal their password. Thus, consumers have been advised to ignore any pop-up or e-mail message asking for financial or other personal information. Also, end-users who are concerned about the security of their account must directly call the organization or visit its Web site by entering the address manually into their browser. Source: <http://www.spamfighter.com/News-11823-Public-Warning-of-Fraudulent-AOL-Phishing-Campaign.htm>
34. *February 10, CNET News* – (International) **Microsoft patches four critical IE, Exchange holes.** Microsoft on February 10 released security updates that fix four critical vulnerabilities in Internet Explorer and Exchange Server that could allow an attacker to take control of an affected computer remotely. Microsoft Security Bulletin MS09-002 plugs two critical holes in IE that could allow remote code execution if an IE user views a Web page that has malicious code, according to Microsoft’s notification. “Users whose accounts are configured to have fewer user rights on the system could be less impacted than users who operate with administrative user rights,” the bulletin said. Security Bulletin MS09-003 fixes two critical vulnerabilities in Exchange Server. One could allow for remote code execution if a maliciously crafted TNEF (Transport Neutral Encapsulation Format) message is sent to an Exchange Server and could allow an attacker to take complete control of the system with Exchange Server service account privileges. The second hole could allow for a denial of service attack if a maliciously crafted MAPI (Messaging Application Programming Interface) command is sent to an Exchange Server. Security Bulletin MS09-004 fixes an important remote code execution vulnerability in SQL Server that could be exploited if untrusted users access an affected system or if a SQL injection attack occurs. The vulnerability was discovered in December 2008. And Security Bulletin MS09-005 closes three important vulnerabilities in Microsoft Office that could allow remote code execution if a user opens a maliciously crafted Visio file. An attacker could then steal data and make changes to accounts with

full user rights.

Source: [http://news.cnet.com/8301-1009\\_3-10160693-83.html?part=rss&tag=feed&subj=News-Security](http://news.cnet.com/8301-1009_3-10160693-83.html?part=rss&tag=feed&subj=News-Security)

### Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Website: <http://www.us-cert.gov>.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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## Communications Sector

Nothing to report

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## Commercial Facilities Sector

Nothing to report

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## National Monuments & Icons Sector

35. *February 10, Associated Press* – (Virginia) **Controlled fire burns field at Appomattox Park.** Firefighters are bringing a field at Appomattox Court House National Historical Park back to its historic state. The controlled fire on February 9 burned away non-native grass and brush on 25-acre Ferguson Field, which sits at the edge of the 1,750-acre national park. The fire was an attempt to restore the historic field to its 1860s state. If left alone, officials say the grass would give way to shrubs, then to pines and cedars, and eventually to hardwoods that would create a canopy that chokes out the other plants. Ferguson Field's exact use in 1865 isn't known but it was open land where troops had camped waiting for the surrender at Appomattox Court House.

Source:

<http://wjz.com/virginiawire/22.0.html?type=local&state=VA&category=n&filename=VA--Park-ControlledFi.xml>

36. *February 10, Associated Press* – (Utah) **Feds wants to tighten access to southern Utah cave.** For nearly a century, southern Utah's largest cave has drawn a mishmash of serious explorers, untrained spelunkers, Boy Scouts, teenage revelers, vandals, litterbugs and drinkers. Now, after years of restoration work — including intensive sandblasting to get rid of graffiti and the removal of untold bags of garbage — the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is looking to tighten access to the 1.3-mile long Bloomington Cave. A proposal now up for public comment would add locked gates at the cave's two



entrances and limit entry to those with permits, which would be free and limited to 50 per day. Caving equipment such as reliable lighting and hard hats also would be required. The director of the BLM's field office in St. George said the gates and new rules could be in place by this summer. At one point in 1952, officials dynamited the cave's entrance because they were worried it was no longer safe. Teenagers quickly removed the rubble and reopened the entrance. Another attempt to shut off the entrance two years later also failed. The proposed permitting system would include requirements for proper equipment and information about "cave etiquette." BLM officials also believe the number of Townsend's big-eared bats declined as more people visited the cave. The agency is hoping the permit system will lessen the pressure on the bats' habitat. The BLM's office in St. George is taking public comment on the proposal through February. Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/02/10/AR2009021000498.html>

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## **Dams Sector**

37. *February 11, National Institute of Standards and Technology* – (National) **Viscosity-enhancing nanomaterials may double service life of concrete.** Engineers at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) are patenting a method that is expected to double the service life of concrete. The key, according to a new paper, is a nano-sized additive that slows down penetration of chloride and sulfate ions from road salt, sea water, and soils into the concrete. A reduction in ion transport translates to reductions in both maintenance costs and the catastrophic failure of concrete structures. The new technology could save billions of dollars and many lives. The nation's infrastructure uses concrete for millions of miles of roadways and 600,000 bridges, and the construction of dams. Infiltrating chloride and sulfate ions cause internal structural damage over time that leads to cracks and weakens the concrete.

Source: [http://www.eurekalert.org/pub\\_releases/2009-02/nios-vnm021109.php](http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2009-02/nios-vnm021109.php)

38. *February 9, Valley Courier* – (Colorado) **Corps may have squeezed a lemon levee in Alamosa.** The Army Corps of Engineers that constructed a new river levee system through Alamosa a decade ago is now telling the City of Alamosa the levee may be flawed — and the city might have to pay to fix it. The Alamosa city manager said the Corps left large trees in place when it constructed the new levee in 1997, but is now blaming the city for the potential structural problems the trees could cause to the levee. "These are big, big trees and they are saying they shouldn't have been allowed to grow on the levee," the Alamosa city manager said. Some are approximately 100 years old, he said, so they would have been there when the Corps built the levee.

Source:

[http://www.alamosanews.com/V2\\_news\\_articles.php?heading=0&page=72&story\\_id=11587](http://www.alamosanews.com/V2_news_articles.php?heading=0&page=72&story_id=11587)

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To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Web page at [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

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